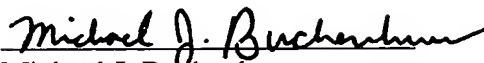


U.S.S.N. 10/666,102
Filed: September 18, 2003
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment inserting a paragraph regarding the background of the invention. This statement is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.177

Respectfully submitted,


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Reg. No. 33,162

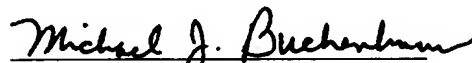
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U.S.S.N. 10/666,102
Filed: September 18, 2003
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Certificate of First-Class Mailing

I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment is being deposited with the U.S. Post Office as first class mail on this date, March 15, 2004, to the Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Michael J. Buchenhorner

Date: March 15, 2004

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